

#### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

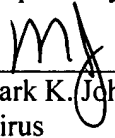
In the Claims: Please cancel claims 1-12 and add new claims 13-29.

13. (new) A process for analyzing gene function comprising: a) injecting a naked polynucleotide encoding the gene into a blood vessel lumen, *in vivo* ; b) increasing the propensity for macromolecules to move through vessel walls and enter the extravascular space; and, c) delivering the naked polynucleotide to an extravascular cell outside of the blood vessel.
14. (new) The process of claim 1 wherein the polynucleotide consists of a gene.
15. (new) The process of claim 1 wherein the gene encodes a protein.
16. (new) A process for analyzing gene function comprising: a) injecting a naked oligonucleotide into a blood vessel lumen, *in vivo* ; b) increasing the propensity for macromolecules to move through vessel walls and enter the extravascular space; and, c) delivering the naked oligonucleotide to an extravascular cell outside of the blood vessel via the increased permeability.
17. (new) The process of claim 4 wherein the oligonucleotide consists of a single strand oligonucleotide.
18. (new) The process of claim 5 wherein the single strand oligonucleotide consists of anti-sense oligonucleotide.
19. (new) The process of claim 6 wherein the single strand oligonucleotide consists of an artificial oligonucleotide.
20. (new) The process of claim 4 wherein the oligonucleotide consists of double strand nucleic acid.
21. (new) The process of claim 8 wherein the double strand oligonucleotide comprises RNA.
22. (new) The process of claim 4 wherein delivery of the oligonucleotide to the cell results in decreased expression of the gene.
23. (new) The process of claim 9 wherein the double strand oligonucleotide consists of a nucleic acid sequence comprising 10 to 50 bases.
24. (new) The process of claim 11 wherein the double strand oligonucleotide consists of a nucleic acid sequence comprising 18 to 25 bases.
25. (new) The process of claim 4 wherein the oligonucleotide comprises sequence that is similar to a portion of the gene sequence.
26. (new) The process of claim 10 wherein the gene is an endogenous gene.

27. (new) The process of claim 15 wherein the gene is a viral gene.
28. (new) The process of claim 1 wherein analyzing gene function comprises drug design.
29. (new) The process of claim 4 wherein analyzing gene function comprises drug design.

In there are any questions or problems, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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